



Central Intelligence Agency  
Office of the Deputy Director for Intelligence

DDI- 03510/84

18 JUN 1984

NOTE FOR: The Director of  
Central Intelligence

Attached for your signature is  
a response to several points raised  
in a letter dated 4 June 1984

Chairman, MEAP, to you.

Robert M. Gates

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

SBI- 03570/84/1

AH. ER84-2570

20 JUN 1984

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Dear [redacted]

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Thank you for your follow-up letter concerning the May 1984 meeting of the Military-Economic Advisory Panel and for the points you raise about several of our ongoing research issues.

I am pleased that you detect progress in the area of projecting the growth of Soviet defense spending. This year a formal review procedure was commissioned to examine each force analyst's projections in the context of crucial supporting assumptions and key constraints that affect individual programs and overall production and deployment.

The comments and criticism the panel provides are valuable as we work to improve our military R&D spending methodology. The first phase of this effort--to assess the strengths and weaknesses of our present estimate--will be followed by measures to strengthen the analytical basis for the estimate and to quantify the uncertainty that is inherent in such a difficult estimate.

Your strong endorsement of SOVA's recent initiative to draft an overview paper on the Soviet defense industry is appreciated at this early stage and I urge you to monitor this effort through its completion. I have been persuaded for some time that pulling such a project together would have an important intelligence payoff.

I continue to place a high value on the work of you and your colleagues on the panel and welcome any observations you may have.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill

William J. Casey  
Director of Central Intelligence



2-232

SUBJECT: Letter to [ ] Chairman, MEAP  
Concerning the May 1984 Meeting

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STAT DDI/SOVA [ ] (14 June 1984)

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11 June 1984

NOTE FOR: D/SOVA

Doug:

Please prepare an acknowledgment for the DCI's signature along with a note from the DDI explaining the package. Also note the deadline of this action is 15 June.

Thanks,

EA/ADDI

NO ACTION

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